

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05247 091247 Z

52

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 RSR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 IO-12 AF-10 EUR-25 /147 W

----- 013985

R 091129 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2016

USINT CAIRO

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5247

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, LE, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN ATTITUDE RE SITUATION IN LEBANON

REF: CAIRO 1380

SEEN FROM HERE, EGYPTIAN GOVT-- IN FOLLOWING TWO- TRACK POLICY
OUTLINED REFTTEL VIS- A- VIS DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON-- IS TREADING
THIN LINE. WE NOTE DAMASCUS RADIO FOR PAST SEVERAL HOURS HAS
CARRIED STATEMENT BY OFFICIAL GOE SPOKESMAN REPORTED PARA 3
REFTTEL AND IS QUOTING HIM, IN ADDITION, AS CHARGING THAT GOL IS
BENT ON " LIQUIDATING" FEDAYEEN MOVEMENT IN LEBANON. WOULD THUS
APPEAR SARG IS NOT ABOVE TAMPERING WITH EGYPTIAN STATEMENTS TO
FORTIFY ITS FAVORITE LINE AND THEREBY LAY GROUNDWORK FOR POSSIBLY
GREATER SYRIAN INTERVENTION HERE. EGYPTIAN PUBLIC STATEMENTS
WHICH PLAY INTO SARG' S HANDS IN THIS FASHION, COULD HELP CAUSE
GOE POLICY DESCRIBED REFTTEL TO BACKFIRE, WITH RESULTS DIRECTLY
OPPOSITE TO THOSE GOE IS TRYING ACHIEVE THROUGH PRIVATE EFFORTS
WITH SARG TO AVOID ESCALATION OF CRISIS.
HOUGHTON

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BEIRUT05247
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BEIRUT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730539/aaaaijub.tel
Line Count: 54
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 CAIRO 1380
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Jan-2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <16-Jan-2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980105
Subject: EGYPTIAN ATTITUDE RE SITUATION IN LEBANON
TAGS: PINS, EG, LE
To: NEA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005